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Subject: KALATOZOV, Mikhail Constantinovich; Film regisseur in Rome.

Date: 5 Sept. 1965

Source: Dr. K. *Accessaway/54*

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

1. Meeting was arranged through the Soviet embassy in Rome when source telephoned the cultural attache, POLYAKOV (tel. 364204) presented himself as a journalist, and asked if there were any groups of Soviet tourists presently in Rome. To his surprise, source was told that a group had just left Rome a few days ago, but there were still a few left and that they were staying at the hotel LUX, on the Via Volturno. (In the past, it was source's experience that such information was usually not given out by the embassy.) POLYAKOV added that there was in Rome presently the Soviet film regisseur KALATOZOV, and that another regisseur BONDARCHUK, had just left Rome. Subject presumed that POLYAKOV was new at his job, since his Italian was poor. Source spoke very fluent Italian, and made an arrangement with POLYAKOV that whenever he wanted to, he could call and POLYAKOV would tell him what Soviet groups are in town, and where they are staying. (This was suggested by POLYAKOV himself.)

Source went to the hotel Lux, and asked to be connected with KALATOZOV. When source noticed that the manager and doorman seemed reluctant to connect him, he called upon POLYAKOV and the Soviet embassy for references. This changed the minds of the manager and doorman and he was immediately connected. A meeting was arranged for 7:00 P.M. that evening, with subject asking that Source call him a few minutes before the hour. Subject talked Russian over the phone, while Source spoke Ukrainian, saying that he was a journalist. A few minutes before 7:00 P.M. source called as was arranged, subject mentioned that he wanted to bring an interpreter along. This was unwarranted, said Source since he spoke Russian.

2. KALATOZOV, Mikhail Constantinovich: Nationality Georgian, approx. age 55-60, 5'10", well built, black hair graying in spots, thick black eyebrows, wide face. Has lived in Moscow for many years. Add. Moscow, Film studio MOKSIN. Prefers to talk about his trade, rather than politics. When forced to talk about politics, sticks mostly to party line.

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3. Subject did not attend the Venice film festival, instead he was in Italy doing research on a new film of his temporarily called "The Rescue of the Nobel North Pole Expedition". In Italy he met some of the members of that expedition, and was scheduled to meet more on the 21st of May. Temporarily he is recommended by a writer, MICHAEL, and a writer, who is writing the scenario for the film. (At the report MICHAEL appeared on a check of a forward with him. Description of MICHAEL attached at the end of report.) Subject visited Henry and Evelyn for the same reason, and was planning to return to Italy to film segments of the movie. Movie is being filmed on to interesting subject matter, plus fact that many nations took part in rescue which adds some moral meaning. Among his other films are "The Cranes are Flying" which was awarded a gold medal in the Cannes film festival in 1959.

4. Innovations in Soviet films are parallel to innovations in the west. Technically, the USSR equals west in Kino-scope, Vista-vision and stereophonic sound. Style may be divided between the older and younger generations. To understand the younger film makers, one has to see the films "I am Twenty Years Old", and "White Nights" both presented this year at Venice film festival. Source commented that the latter was criticized by Italians as having an over-abundance of official ideology. Subject replied that Italians will have a hard time understanding this film, being unacquainted with circumstances of Ukrainian life. Film is Ukrainian, but he does not remember the name of the region.

5. Source stated that it would be better if every republic presented its films separately at such festivals as the Venice festival, and not as the USSR as one. Such a policy is not fair towards the USSR itself. Subject did not reject this statement, instead said that it is accepted that the USSR is represented as a whole (one nation) when dealing with other nations. Furthermore, the Ukrainian film, "Children of Forgotten Ancestors" was presented at the Montel Plata film festival in Argentina, and was awarded a high honor.

This is a wonderful movie, which needs no dubbing since the scenery is beautiful, and the Ukrainian spoken in the film is without comparison. Young Ukrainian regisseurs have a leaning towards such films presently.

6. Art, and filmmaking of every Soviet republic proceeds independently, each republic has its own national characteristics, and is not dependent on others. Often artists from all over the USSR meet and discuss various problems connected with their field, but this does not stop each republic from going its own way in the field of art.

7. The Moscow film studio is very large employing app. 2,000 workers. The Kiev studio is larger, employing app. 3,000 workers. In Ukraine there are also studios in Odessa, and Yalta. In Western Ukraine there is a studio in Lviv which is mainly concerned with documentary films. Subject was a good friend of DZVINEZ, praised him very highly as being a great Ukrainian artist whose national Ukrainian element was so highly developed, and so profound that he managed to place it on a world-wide level. This ~~is~~ ^{not} ~~not~~ paradoxical since Ukrainian culture, literature and art are so great (ogromnyu). Source stated that this is all accredited to Moscow in the west. Subject replied that this is the fault of the emigration for not informing foreigners about the separate national cultures in the USSR, the history of the republics and the nationalities.

Source argued that the emigration is trying its best, but some help from the republics themselves is required. This help can come in the form of separate diplomatic relations between republics and western countries. Subject argued that the upkeep of such missions would be too costly, again repeating that to the exterior world the USSR is one nation, such is the system. Therefore, the system should be changed said source.

Subject did not comment, just smiled. The ~~Emigration~~ emigres from the USSR in the west, said subject, bring up the matter of independance for the Soviet republics very sharply and uncompromisingly, while in reality the republics are independant. Each republic has the right to develop ^{nationally} ~~nationally~~ its national life. All ~~nations~~ ^{nationalities} of the USSR have their representatives in the ALL-Union diplomatic corps. There is no Russification at all. When subject was in Ukraine a few years ago, he noticed that

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Ukrainian is spoken everywhere. The large cities are not insulated at all. Then repeated the phrase that "Ukraine is blooming and flourishing".

8. The Stalinist era is long forgotten, life is completely different now. When asked to state some concrete differences in the way of life, subject said that he does not wish to talk about such topics, since they are political, and he as an artist does not take an interest in such. Suggested that source speak to someone from embassy, mentioning KAPTELENOV (cultural attache) saying that he can explain all these matters quite satisfactory, is a very sincere man, and very open. Suggested that source read Soviet papers: Pravda and Izvestia, Izvestia does not have too many official articles, and lively discussion can always be found on all topics. Recommended that source meet people who come from Ukraine, BONDARCHUK for example, who just left, he was Ukrainian, a wonderful film regisseur and quite young about 45. From such people much can be learned about life in Ukraine. It would also be good if source visited Ukraine himself sometime. Times have changed since Stalin, everything is open for viewing. This ended the conversation, with source taking subject's address.

9. Upon leaving the hotel, source met ^{NAGIBIN} ~~XXXXXXXX~~ and two friends: TOMASHKIN, and KAPTELENOV. There was no significant conversation.

10. ^{NAGIBIN} ~~XXXXXXXX~~, Yury Martevych: Age app. 45, does not speak Ukrainian, average height, hair quite gray, well built. Said that he likes Italy very much and would like to visit it again.